

# International Mars Ice Mapper Mission

## Measurement Definition Team (MDT)

### Overview + Status

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This is an update on the status of the Mars Ice Mapper Measurement Definition Team.

This presentation has been reviewed and determined not to contain export controlled technical data.

It does not represent the views of the organizations that employ any of the members of the analysis team.

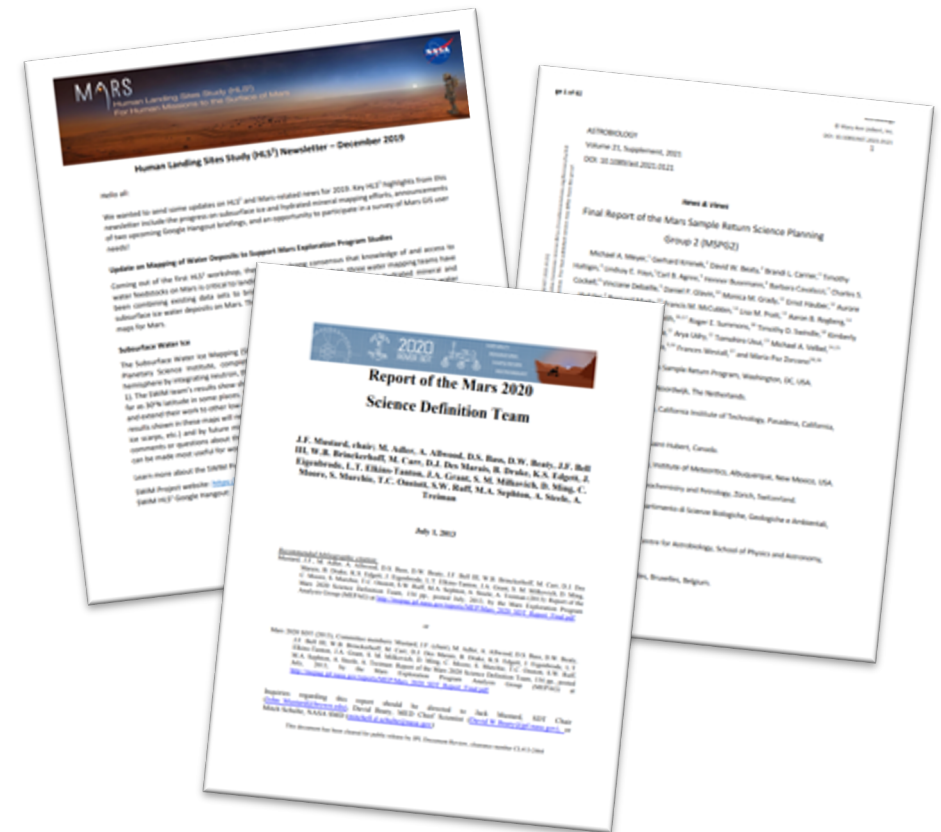
Approach to team composition and activities builds from prior experience.

## Philosophy

- Draw from experience where possible, innovate where necessary

## Key Precedents

- Mars 2020 Science Definition Team (M2020 SDT)
- Mars Sample Return Science Planning Group 2 (MSPG2)
- Human Landing Sites Study (HLS<sup>2</sup>)



## Open Competitive Process

- August 2021: “Dear Colleague” letter and MDT Charter posted inviting international applicants
  - 147 highly qualified applications received
- November 2021: Team selections finalized

## Team Composition

- Expertise spread across planetary and science and human exploration
- 10 countries represented
- Diversity across gender and career stage



Additional information on MDT process at: <https://science.nasa.gov/researchers/ice-mapper-measurement-definition-team>



# I-MIM MDT IMPLEMENTATION

Michèle Lavagna / Jeff Plaut, Co-Chairs



Recon/Science Measurement Definition Team differs from traditional SDT.

### Traditional SDT Process:

- a Science Definition Team (SDT) defines mission objectives, observation requirements, and a notional payload suite

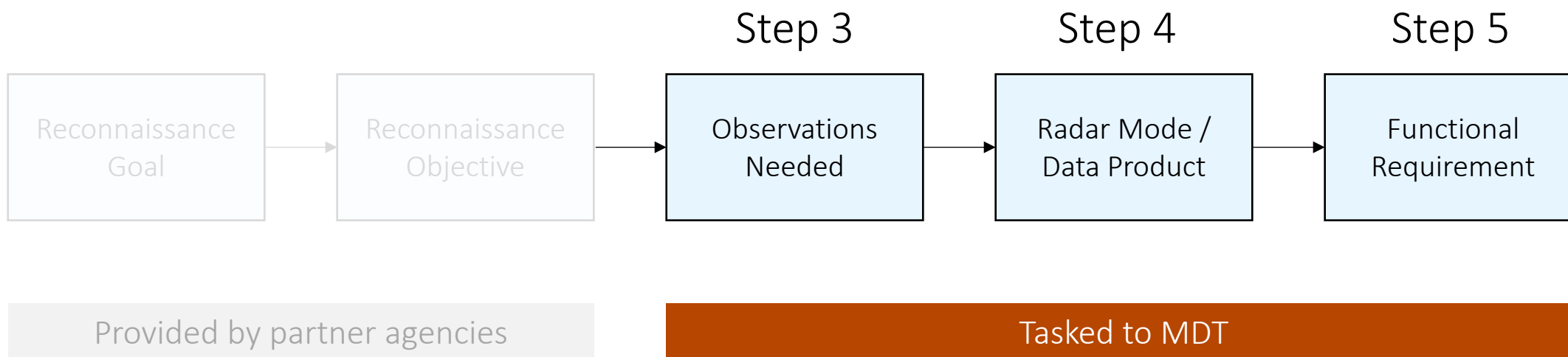
### For I-MIM:

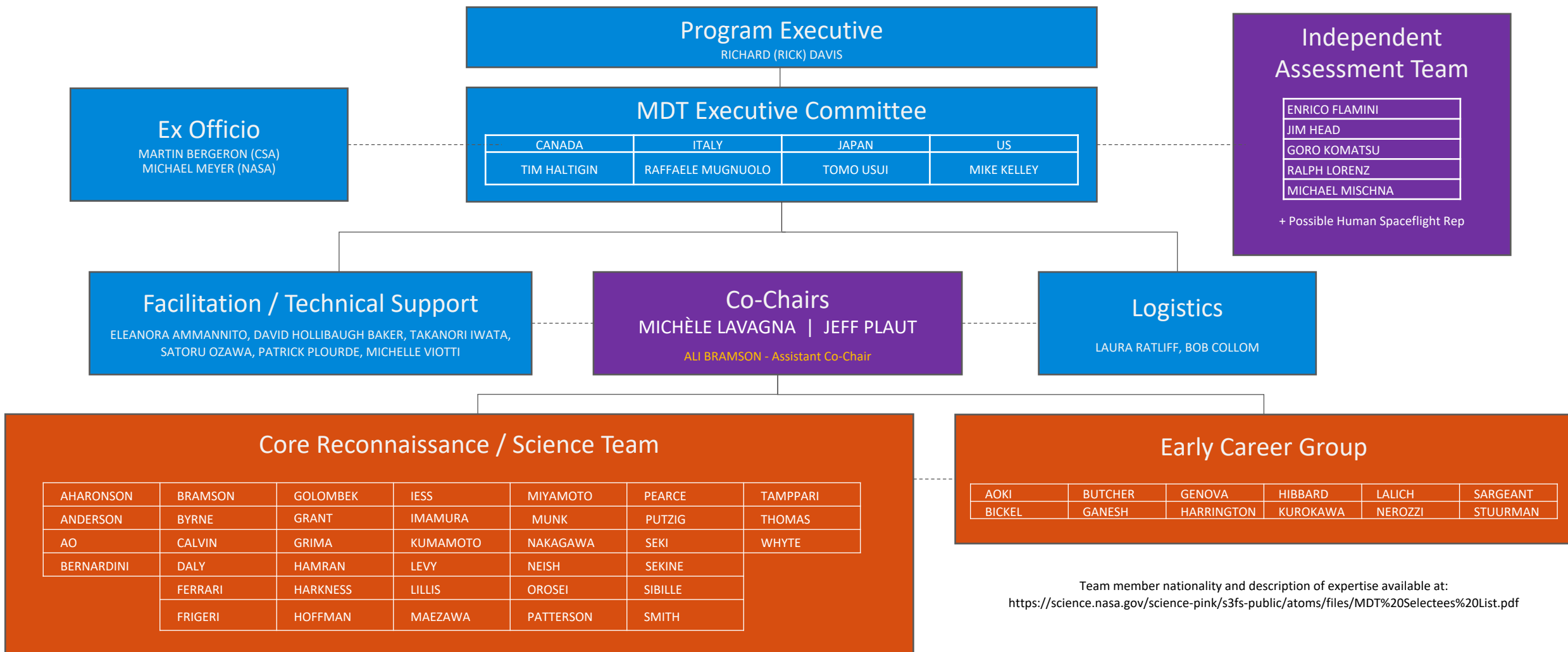
- Agency partners have agreed upon preliminary Mission Concept goals, objectives, and spacecraft/payload assumptions to reflect both common and unique national reconnaissance and science goals for Mars exploration
- The MDT brings together the traditional planetary science community AND users of the requirements-driven reconnaissance *measurement* data for human mission planning

### MDT Ground Rules & Assumptions

- Core mission requirements are reconnaissance-driven
- Primary anchor payload is a compact-polarimetric L-band SAR/Sounder
- Agency partners are committed to maximizing return on investment through high value, investigation-driven supplemental science and mission-support objectives

I-MIM MDT: MEASUREMENT TRACEABILITY MATRIX (MTM) ROADMAP





Appointed by partner agencies

Selected from applicants

Appointed by partner agencies or selected from applicants



We Are Here

### Task 1: Core Reconnaissance Mission

- Provide detailed measurement requirements traceable to mission reconnaissance goal/objectives for anchor radar payload
- If radar payload is not uniquely capable of satisfying the reconnaissance objectives, identify measurements that are required and **propose additional payload(s) to meet the requirements**

### Task 2: Potential Mission Augmentation Options to Maximize Return on Investment

- Define additional recon and science objectives that could be met with reference payload
- Assess and prioritize technical and scientific options for augmenting the core mission
- **Feasibility assessment of supplemental payload(s) and/or modest modifications to recon payload(s)**

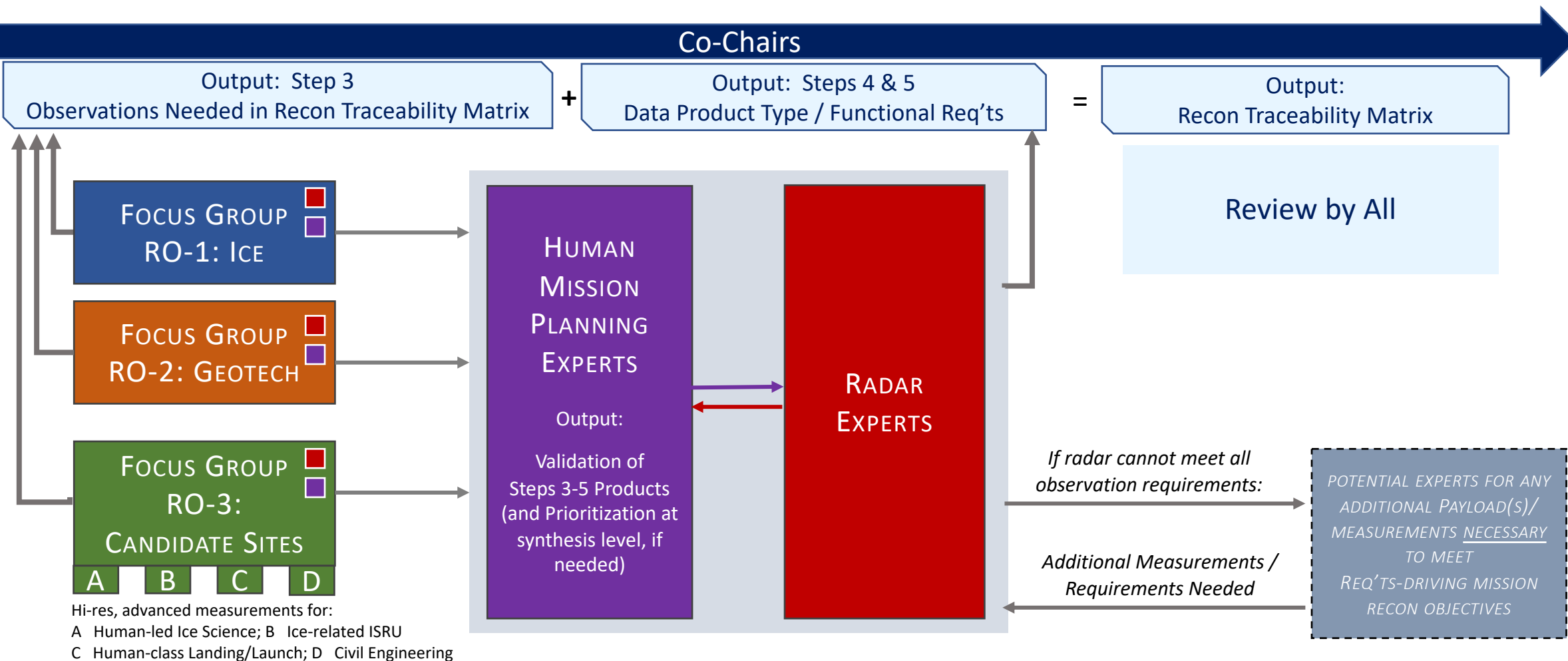
### Task 3: Concept of Operations

- Prepare a model operational concept based on findings from Tasks 1 and 2



1. FOCUS GROUPS: Organized by Recon Objective.
2. HUMAN MISSION PLANNING EXPERTS:
3. RADAR EXPERTS:
4. ALL:

Define Questions and Observations Needed. (Radar/Human Mission Experts embedded in each.)  
Validate key questions and observations needed.  
Turn questions/observations into functional instrument requirements.  
Generate recon traceability matrix that lead to mission requirements definitions.



## MDT Tasks 1-3 Phasing

All ASI CSA JAXA NASA NSO?

Early Organization

Heavy SAR Focus/Recon Requirements driven; Recon Con Ops

Final Report Prep

Extended Use of SAR for Science & Additional Payloads/Rideshares ConOps

DEC

JAN

FEB

MAR

APR

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	1	2	3	4	5

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

NOV 30  
Kickoff

DEC  
Background Briefings

JAN 11  
New Year Start

~ 5.5 weeks

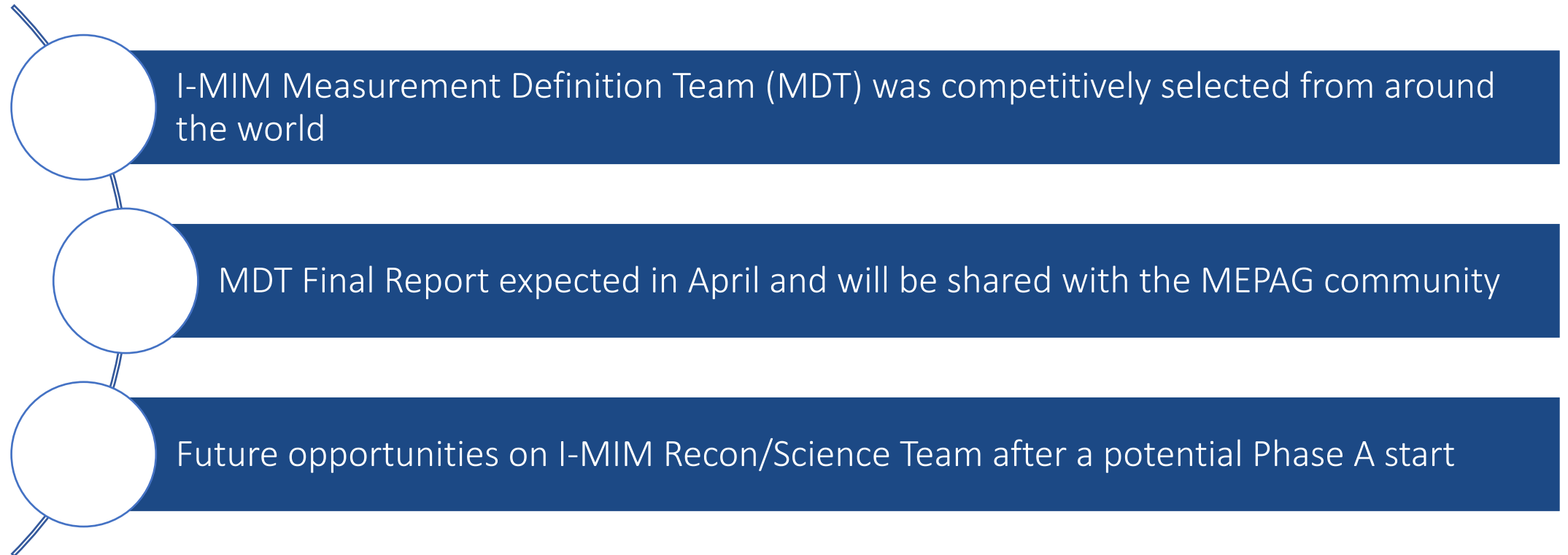
FEB 18  
Interim Report

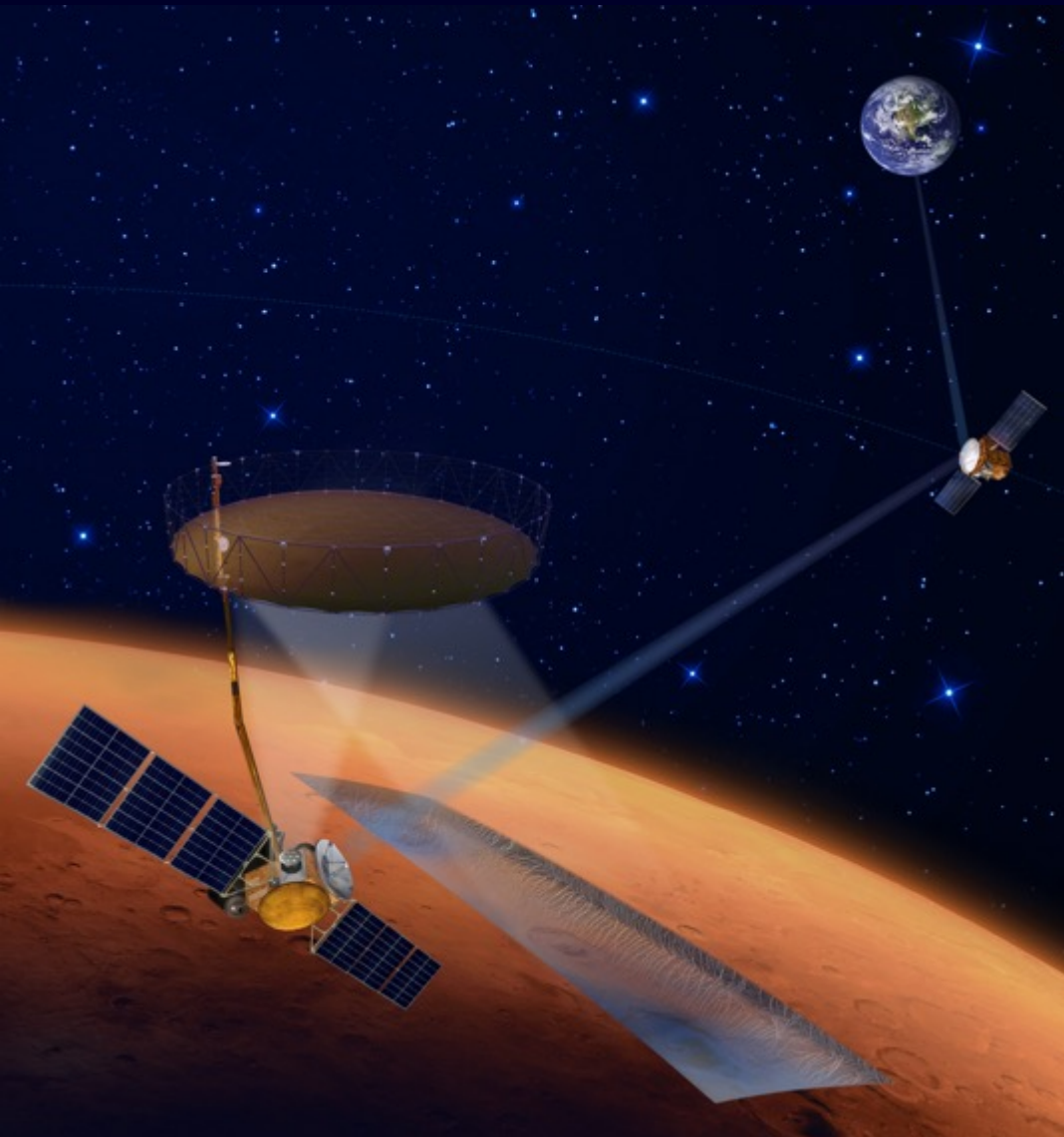
~ 5 weeks

MAR 25  
Near-final Summary

~ 3 weeks

APR 14  
Final Report\*



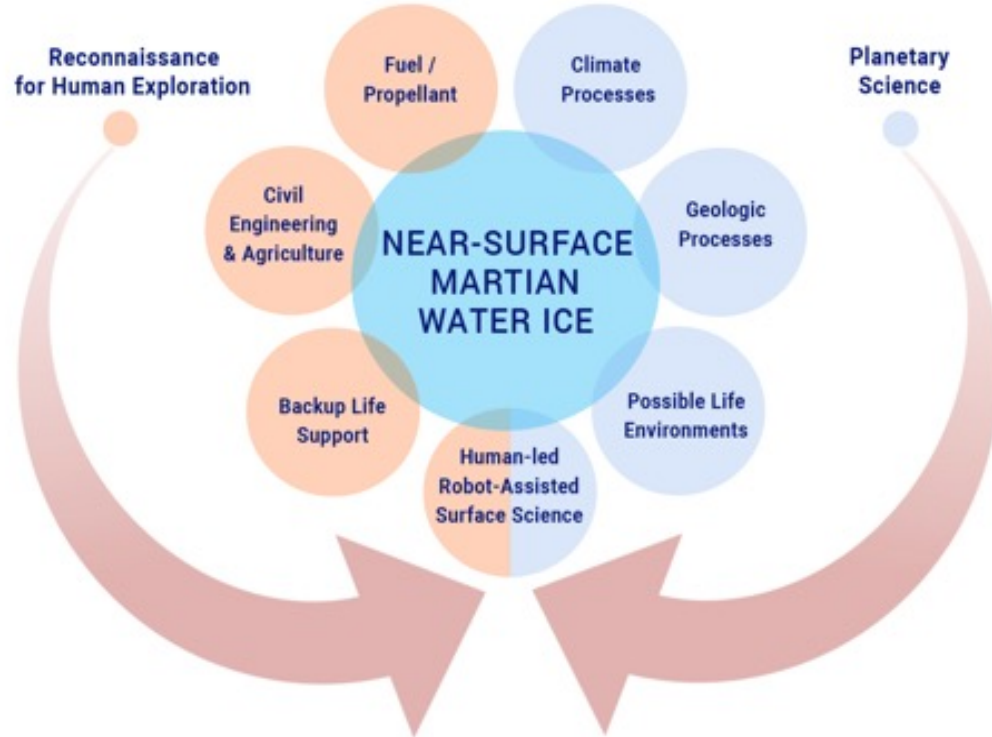


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Backups

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Ice detection leads to eventual convergence in a future sustained human-robotic presence on Mars.



- Critical both for Mars reconnaissance-driven measurements for the human exploration of Mars and for planetary science priorities
- Human-exploration and science objectives will eventually converge when human explorers are able to live and work on the Martian surface,



## AGENCY-LEVEL EXPLORATION-DRIVEN GOAL (DRIVES REQUIREMENTS)

Map and characterize accessible subsurface (top 10m) ice and its overburden in mid-to-low latitudes to support planning for the first potential human surface missions.

## RECONNAISSANCE OBJECTIVES

In the Reconnaissance Zone (RZ\*):

RO-1

Where is the ice?  
How much is there?

RO-2

What is the nature  
of the regolith  
above the ice?

RO-3

What specific  
considerations  
are required to  
characterize potential  
candidate sites for  
human exploration?

**\*RECONNAISSANCE ZONE (RZ):** Midlatitude, low elevation, terrain-favorable areas on Mars where human exploration is likely viable in terms of human-led surface science potential, in-situ resource utilization, engineering constraints associated with landing and surface operations, and other such factors.

## AGENCY-LEVEL SUPPLEMENTAL VALUE GOAL (MAXIMIZES RETURN ON INVESTMENT)

As possible, provide *high-value science opportunities* and *high-priority mission-support capabilities* that serve both reconnaissance and science.

SUPPLEMENTAL SCIENCE  
OBJECTIVES

SUPPLEMENTAL MISSION SUPPORT  
OBJECTIVES

Within mission boundary conditions (recon req'ts, budget, schedule, operational complexity, partner commitments):

What additional  
scientific investigations  
can be conducted?

What supplemental technologies /  
recon/science payloads  
could be included?



### Primary Payload

- L-band compact polarimetric SAR/Nadir SAR Sounder
- Decades of EO SAR expertise through RADARSAT missions



Netherlands  
**Space  
Office**

### Solar Arrays

- Potential contribution of Flexible Compact Array (FCA)
- Extensive expertise in solar arrays  
(Airbus Defence and Space Netherlands:  
> 85 space missions, 100% successfully deployed)



### Mission Architect / Mission Management

- Launch vehicle/services
  - Potential high-altitude communications network
  - Recon/Science Team Co-lead
- Decades of experience at Mars and in human spaceflight/mission architectures



### Reflector Antenna/Boom and Communications Subsystem

- Communications Subsystem on SARbird
- Decades of Radar + Communications Expertise  
(Cassini, JUICE, Bepi Colombo)



### Spacecraft

- Spacecraft bus and operations
- Extensive spacecraft & SAR expertise  
(Hayabusa, Hayabusa2, MMX,  
ALOS L-band, GPM SAR)

Concept Team roles only; partners have not yet made formal commitment. Additional Partners are possible.